

AIS Review — Bayfield County

~ Lake Survey Results ~

This summer, nine lakes were surveyed in Bayfield County. These comprehensive surveys employed four sampling techniques. They included snorkeling at all boat landings and 5 additional locations on each lake. Also done were net samples for Zebra Mussels and Spiny water fleas. Water quality measurements were taken of dissolved oxygen, water clarity (secchi), and conductivity. The final technique was a winding survey of vegetation as viewed from the boat. We are still awaiting the results of the Zebra Mussel and Spiny water flea tows, but the on-site data collection showed no new invasives in any of the lakes. There was a small exception to this as Chinese Mystery Snails were found in Buskey Bay and had not previously been recorded there. However, these snails were already reported in the adjoining Lake Millicent which is part of the same Pike Chain.



Chinese Mystery Snail

~ Cool Observations ~

- Long Lake was found to have Spiny Hornwort (*Ceratophyllum echinatum*), which is a species of special concern in Wisconsin.
- West Twin Lake has a beautiful population of various-leaved watermilfoil. It is a great lake to go to for plant and snorkel enthusiasts!
- Perch Lake has a very diverse plant community which includes a species of special concern, Large purple bladderwort. Though somewhat rare in Wisconsin lakes, this native plant can become a nuisance on the few lakes it is found. As stated by Susan Knight of UW Center for Limnology.

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The lakes surveyed were Atkins Lake, Half Moon Lake, Long Lake, Buskey Bay, Robinson Lake, Takhoda Lake, West Twin Lake, Perch Lake, and Lake Owen. Lake Delta and Upper Eau Claire Lake are up to be surveyed next year, as well as others which are to be determined. Special thanks to Maureen Ferry, Pamela Toshner, Cliff Lavign, and Alex Smith of the DNR; as well as Sean Haushalter, local resident, for their help in completing all these surveys.



~ CBCW Inspector Highlights ~

~ Water Protection Enthusiasts ~

Opportunities exist for plenty of individuals to be involved with monitoring for invaders. Bayfield County has over 1,000 lakes and streams. Many of these precious water resources have no one looking out for them. Trained individuals are needed to fill this task. To find out how you can become a Defender of the Waterways, attend a workshop. Workshops like Clean Boats/Clean Waters trains inspectors to check boats and share the message at boat landings. Citizen lake Monitoring Network workshops teach you to identify invasives and monitoring methods. If rivers are more your specialty, Project RED (Riverine Early Detection) is the workshop which will teach you about the threats to our trout streams. There will be many of these workshops scheduled starting next Spring. For more information and to find out when workshops will be in your area visit <http://www4.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexplakes/> or contact the Bayfield County Land and Water Department at 715-373-6167.



Way to go Bayfield County.....spending a good portion of the summer to work against the spread of AIS. Special "Thank You" to:

Susanne Newcomer, Paul Gilbert, Dr. David Racher, Jeannie & Dale Kent, and Sybil & Jim Brakken:	For their work with Purple Loosestrife control and CBCW work on Cable Lake!
Lloyd (Buzz) Pickering, Jerry Flesher, and Lee Wiesner:	For their work with Purple Loosestrife control on Lower Eau Claire Lake!
Karen Austin and her CBCW crew:	On Delta Lake and the Pike Chain for their work, strong leaders and great at spreading the message!
Sally Pease and the Barnes CBCW crew:	3 rd most inspected boats in the state!
Tom Trianoski and the Long Lake CBCW crew:	Stepping up to the plate and keeping the program going!
Nan & Jim Olson, Pat Anderson, Brandon Blazkowski, Jim Crandall, and Sally Pease:	For volunteering for the AIS tent at the county fair, spreading the word about invasive threats to both young and old alike!
Jon Kudlas, Jerry Kaiser, Kris Neff and the rest of the Eau Claire Lakes POA:	For working to educate the youth with lake field trips in Barnes. "No child left on shore!" - John Kudlas
Sean Haushalter:	For helping survey Long Lake.
Jane Swenson:	For being a major contributor to the success of Knot-weed Knockout!
Delta Area Lakes Association:	For donating refreshments at a CBCW workshop!

~ CBCW Inspection Efforts ~

GREAT JOB!!! to all who participated in the Clean Boats Clean Waters projects throughout the county this year. We had three (3) training workshops with 33 participants. They put these skills to use this summer teaching boaters what they could do to prevent the spread of AIS and what the new laws were. While there is still some data to be entered, preliminary results (see table) demonstrate that inspectors made contact with over 14,000 boaters in Bayfield County. This is the third highest in the state. There were over 6,000 boats inspected; also third highest in the state. As we look at these accomplishments we should also look at where there is room for improvement. Lake Superior is highly lacking in this area.



Training Workshop in Iron River

Inspection Efforts

CBCW Program	Boats Inspected	People Educated
Barnes Area	2388 (3331 including Douglas County)	5785
Cable Area	434	929
Lake Owen**	545	1291
Lake Superior	63	80
Long Lake (Iron River)	212	486
Lake Namakagon	451	939
Pike Chain/Delta Lake	2156	5303
TOTALS	6249	14813

**Data only entered till mid-July, more to come 😊

It is great we are protecting our inland lakes, but we also need to address the source of many of our AIS problems and prevent them from leaving the big lake. Education is the best tool we have in prevention and Lake Superior landings are great sites to share that message. In the upcoming year we will be making a much better effort to increase CBCW events and inspections on Lake Superior. But through the other 6 programs great work has been done in sharing the message. Highlights include the town of Barnes having the program with third highest amount of boats inspected in the state, as well as getting the town board volunteering to staff landings. Both the Pike Chain and Lake Owen had inspections occurring during weekdays. And Lake Namakagon worked with Northland College to provide their inspectors. Thank you to all involved in CBCW and keep up the great work!



~ Purple Loosestrife ~

Purple Loosestrife (PL) has been a big concern of many lake residents this year and rightly so. It reduces the variety of wetland plants and creates a dense stand so there is less habitat for other wetland creatures. It also crowds out already low level waterways. The trick to getting rid of purple loosestrife is persistence. You can pull plants and chemically treat with herbicide, but this is not a one time solution. According to the DNR one plant can produce up to 300,000 seeds. These seeds can sit in a shoreline for three years till they germinate. This is why it is so important to cut the heads off of these flowering plants, even if they are treated. This summer about 20,000 beetles were raised and released into the Fish Creek Slew by Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Service. This is a form of Bio-control which may not eliminate the plant but will put it in check with its other wetland competitors. Also this summer, herbicide was applied to PL plants in Lower Eau Claire Lake and North Twin Lake. At Cable Lake plants were both pulled and treated. The pulled plants will be used to rear beetles next spring in a display at the Cable Natural History Museum. The beetles are a good control for large or dense stands. Contact us if you would like to assist in this fun Bio-control project or have Purple Loosestrife concerns.

~ Knotweed, the other Wetland Invader ~

Japanese Knotweed (JK) can take over both shorelines of lakes and streams as well as our gardens and yards. Before knowing its consequences, it was used for erosion control because it is such a fast growing plant and can grow in most soils. It was also sold as an attractive ornamental. But it is a problem due to its ability to shade out all other plants and spreads quickly through a very advantageous rhizome, or underground stem. These rhizomes can grow over 20 feet long and 9 feet below the ground. They can cross river beds and bays growing from one shore to another. They can damage foundations and pavement. Digging and removing this plant can cause it to spread as this stimulates more stem growth from the rhizomes. Similar threats are Bohemian and Giant Knotweed which are both NR 40 prohibited species (see page 7). Partners of the Northwood's Cooperative Weed Management Area (NCWMA) took a stand against knotweed with Knotweed Knockout Days in Iron River, Herbster, Washburn, and Bayfield. Local municipalities and land owners assisted in locating these plants and gave permission to control knotweed with chemical treatment methods. There are still plenty of knotweed stands out there and we will have knotweed knockout again next year, so please report any sightings.



~ Drummond 7th Grade ECO Field Trip ~

September 22, 2011; Barnes, WI; Upper Eau Claire Lake... A group of 7th graders from the school district of Drummond embarked on an adventure to discover the science and magic hidden in the lakes of northern Wisconsin. To prepare these youthful explorers for what they would encounter on Upper Eau Claire Lake, classes were taught on critical habitat, invasive species, canoeing, and water quality.



They were guided by Barnes residents, experts on the lake, and AIS coordinators, from Bayfield and Douglas County, through discovery of what lies in our waters. They learned the importance of plants and water quality and their effect on the lake's ecosystem.

They were challenged to identify these plants and critical habitats, as well as employ scientific methods to test the water. The knowledge they gained was great as was their enthusiasm in learning about this important topic. Thanks to the residents that helped and to their teacher for organizing such a worthwhile field trip!

~ New AIS Discovery ~

Thanks to the great efforts and awareness of outdoor enthusiast Maddy Krivinchuk of Barnes, a new infestation of Eurasian Water Milfoil was discovered in George Lake in Bayfield County. Maddy lives on the lake, and has been working with John Kudlas, a member of the Bayfield County AIS committee. Thanks to the efforts and hard work by volunteers like Maddy and John, EWM has not taken over a significant amount of native vegetation in the lake. The Barnes EWM Committee already had a rapid response plan and coordinator in place to handle situations like this. Having this action plan in place allowed the committee to immediately secure a \$20,000 grant to handle this infestation. George Lake has a bright future ahead because removal of EWM has already begun by the crew of dedicated volunteers like Maddy and John, and future treatment and further removal is slated for next year!



Left to right: Lee Weisner, Maddy Krivinchuk, and John Kudlas work to pull Eurasian Watermilfoil from George Lake

~ More Success from CBCW Efforts~

In August, a CBCW inspector witnessed and reported an infraction of the “AIS No Transport Law” on the Pike/Delta Chain in Iron River. The inspector contacted the appropriate authorities using the AIS Violation Report included with all CBCW kits. The Sheriff’s department was able to relay the information to a DNR Warden Supervisor within 15 minutes and a DNR water guard responded to the situation by contacting both parties. Following is a portion of the report:



"The angler stated that they did not purposely leave the landing to avoid the CBCW volunteer but left because it was busy and they did not want to block the landing. The CBCW volunteer stated that all she wanted was someone to talk with the individual and remind him of the laws. No citation was issued and after talking with both groups it was thought to be a positive outcome."

We give a lot of credit to both boaters and inspectors, and this was the only known incident in the county this summer! Other follow up on this included a meeting between the AIS coordinator and Sheriff’s department to see if there were any issues or questions in handling these reports. The consensus of that meeting was that the incident was handled very well and the department fully supports receiving calls for needed AIS law enforcement. Another outcome of this event was a suggestion by the boater that CBCW inspectors have a long hook or grabbing device to assist in removal of weeds which are hard to reach. Thinking in this constructive manner helps us all work together. It is good to remember both boaters and CBCW crews have a common enemy, AIS!

**Drain all water from bilge,
motor, and livewell**

**OR you may be giving these guys a free ride and
letting them clog your cooling system**



~ Definition of NR 40 ~

What is NR 40 and What does Restricted/Prohibited mean?

•NR 40 is a chapter of the Wisconsin Administrative code. NR= Natural resources. This code sets the rules on Invasive Species Classification, Identification, and Control. It categorizes species as restricted or prohibited and describes the laws and enforcement which go along with these categories. Below are the differences between Restricted and Prohibited species:

Restricted

- Already Widely Established
- Negative Impacts are evident
- Complete eradication unlikely
- Control is encouraged but not required
- Illegal to transport, transfer, or introduce w/o a permit

Prohibited

- Not Widely Established
- Likely to have Negative Impacts
- Still possible to eradicate and prevent spread
- Control ***is required*** and can be ordered
- Illegal to transport, ***POSSESS***, transfer, or introduce w/o a permit



Public education of this rule is still the primary method of enforcement, but citations can be issued for non-compliance. For more information about NR 40 check

<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/classification/>

~ Aquatic Plant Management ~

Lakes needing plant control: One aquatic plant in particular has been blamed for a few “invasions” in Bayfield County. This plant is Large Purple Bladderwort. Large Purple Bladderwort is native and a species of special concern in Wisconsin (<http://wisplants.uwsp.edu/scripts/detail.asp?SpCode=UTRPUR>).

This means it is one of the rarer plants. It is a bit unique as it has no roots and free floats in the water. It is carnivorous like other bladderworts and receives its nutrition from Zooplankton. However, where it occurs it can be prolific and becomes a hassle to deal with by cluttering beaches and navigable waters.



What are the rules regarding plants like this and what options do we have to control it? Aquatic plants whether exotic or native can be a difficult thing to manage on your own, and most likely will require permits. The rules are outlined in Administrative Rule NR 107 & 109, but options for control can be specified for your lake in an Aquatic Plant Management (APM) Plan. APM plans are a useful tool in ensuring the health of your lake.

Visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/plants/> to view NR109 or for APM information, or contact the Spooner DNR office at - 715-635-2101.



Aquatic Invasive Species Program

615 - 2nd Avenue East
PO Box 126
Washburn, WI 54891

FIND: AIS Committee Minutes & Agendas!
www.bayfieldcounty.org/ais-meetings.asp

MISSION

*To prevent, manage, and perhaps
eradicate aquatic invasive species in
Bayfield County waters.*

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~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~

- * Oct. 24-25 – *State AIS Coordinator Mtg.* (La Crosse)
- * Nov. 3 – *Iron River Lakes CBCW Mtg.*
- * Nov. 8 – *AIS Committee Mtg.* (County Board Room)
- * Nov. 12 – *Long Lake Assoc. Mtg.* (Tri Lakes)
- * Nov. 12 – *Crystal Lake Steering Committee Mtg.*

For questions on all these events, contact Jeremy:

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